

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Issue Date: December 29, 2006 Comment Deadline: January 29, 2007 Corps Action ID #: SAW-2006-20573-292

The Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application from the Town of Cary, Engineering Department seeking Department of the Army authorization for permanent impacts to 0.91-acres of jurisdictional wetlands, 0.24-acre of non-jurisdictional isolated wetlands, and 250.4 linear feet of perennial stream channel. Also included within the application are temporary impacts to 0.43-acre jurisdictional wetlands, 0.08-acre of non-jurisdictional isolated wetlands, and 44.3 linear feet of perennial stream channel. The impacts listed above are associated with the completion of Morrisville Parkway between NC 55 and NC 54 near Cary, Wake County, North Carolina.

Specific plans and location information are described below and shown on the attached plans. This Public Notice and all attached plans are also available on the Wilmington District Web Site at <a href="https://www.saw.usace.army.mil/wetlands">www.saw.usace.army.mil/wetlands</a>

**Applicant:** Town of Cary, Engineering Department

Attn: Mr. Russ Overton

PO Box 8005

Cary, North Carolina 27512-8005

**AGENT** (if applicable): URS Corporation

Attn: Mr. Charles E. Benton

1600 Perimeter Park Drive, Suite 400

Morrisville, NC 27560-8421

### **Authority**

The Corps will evaluate this application and a decide whether to issue, conditionally issue, or deny the proposed work pursuant to applicable procedures of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

### Location

The proposed project includes three areas of construction activity, identified as roadway segments Phase Ic, Phase II, and Phase IIId. The Phase Ic project segment is a proposed

connection of an existing section of the Morrisville Parkway at the intersection with Louis Stephens Drive to an existing section of the Morrisville Parkway near Preston Village Way. The Phase II project segment would connect an existing section of the Morrisville Parkway at the intersection near Ashmore Drive to an existing section of the Morrisville Parkway at the intersection with Davis Drive, and the Phase IIId project segment is a proposed connection of the existing section of the Morrisville Parkway at the intersection with Carpenter-Upchurch Road to NC 55.

Coordinates (in decimal degrees) for portions of the construction areas are 35.8142° N, 78.8628° W, and 35.8139 ° N, 78.8514 ° W. The project site contains adjacent wetlands and streams channels, one of which is a named stream, Hatchet Grove. Hatchet Grove drains to Crabtree Creek in the Neuse River Basin (8-Digit Cataloging Unit of 03020201).

### **Existing Site Conditions**

The proposed project includes three areas of construction activity, identified as roadway segments Phase Ic, Phase II, and Phase IIId. These segments would link existing portions of Morrisville Parkway and create a roadway linking NC 54 to NC 55.

The proposed Phase Ic segment is bordered to the east and west by existing sections of the Morrisville Parkway, and to the north and south by undeveloped forested land. The existing conditions within this project segment include upland hardwood/pine forest, jurisdictional forested wetlands, and Hatchet Grove, a named perennial stream. The upland forest is dominated by loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*), sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*). American elm (*Ulnus americana*) and willow oak (*Quercus phellos*). The forested wetland is dominated by sweetgum, red maple, loblolly pine, and tag alder (*Alnus serrulata*). This reach of Hatchet Grove is approximately 500 feet upstream of an impounded lake utilized for flood storage of Crabtree Creek. The impoundment is identified as Natural Resource Conservation Service Dam Number 2.

The proposed Phase II segment is bordered to the west by an existing section of the Morrisville Parkway, to the east by Davis Drive, and to the north and south by undeveloped forested land and residential properties. The existing conditions within the project segment include upland mixed hardwoods, jurisdictional forested wetlands, non-jurisdictional isolated forested wetlands, and an unnamed perennial tributary to Hatchet Grove. The vegetation is similar to that described within Phase Ic.

The proposed Phase IIId segment is bordered to the west by NC 55, to the east by Carpenter-Upchurch Road, to the north by an undeveloped wooded property, and to the south by a developed property that contains a mulch storage facility. A section of rail line is also located within this project segment. The undeveloped portion of this property contains upland mixed hardwood/pine forest, and an isolated forested wetland. Vegetation is similar to that described within Phase Ic.

A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) jurisdictional determination has been completed for each segment which verifies the aquatic features stated above.

### **Applicant's Stated Purpose**

The project purpose for the proposed activity is to complete Morrisville Parkway, a 4-land divided median roadway between NC 54 and NC 55 near Cary, Wake County, North Carolina.

### **Project Description**

Portions of Morrisville Parkway have previously been constructed. This proposal is to connect the existing portions of roadway to create a continuous road from NC 54 to NC 55. The proposed design would be similar to the existing sections of Morrisville Parkway which includes a 105-foot wide, 4-lane median divided roadway, including 5-foot wide sidewalks and 5-foot wide utility strips to be situated on both sides of the roadway. Fill slopes are proposed at a 2:1 ratio.

Total permanent impacts from this proposal are 0.91-acres of jurisdictional wetlands, 0.24-acre of non-jurisdictional isolated wetlands, and 250.4 linear feet of perennial stream channel. Temporary impacts are proposed to 0.43-acre jurisdictional wetlands, 0.08-acre of non-jurisdictional isolated wetlands, and 44.3 linear feet of perennial stream channel. A breakdown of these impacts within each segment of roadway is described below.

The proposed Phase Ic segment would be approximately 1,130 feet in length and would connect the existing section of the Morrisville Parkway at the intersection with Louis Stephens Drive to an existing section of the Morrisville Parkway near Preston Village Way. To minimize wetland and stream impacts, the applicant has proposed to construct a 180-foot long, 82-foot wide, prestressed concrete, three-span bridge over Hatchet Grove. The bridge would be constructed using cranes placed above and on the side of the bridge site. Two bents would be placed on top of drilled piers set approximately fifteen feet below ground surface. A temporary haul road would be necessary to access the site. Permanent impacts expected from this segment would be 0.40-acre of jurisdictional wetlands. Temporary impacts would be expected to 0.27-acre of jurisdictional wetlands, and 12.2 linear feet of perennial stream.

The proposed Phase II segment would extend approximately 1,260 linear feet and would connect the existing section of the Morrisville Parkway near the intersection with Ashmore Drive to an existing section of the Morrisville Parkway at the intersection of Davis Drive. The applicant is proposing the use of a 162-foot long, 12-foot by 8-foot, reinforced concrete single box culvert to cross an unnamed perennial stream. A temporary channel would be constructed to divert stream flow during construction. Permanent impacts would include 0.51-acre of jurisdictional wetlands, 0.09-acre of non-jurisdictional isolated wetlands, and 250.4 linear feet of perennial stream channel.

Temporary impacts would include 0.16-acre of jurisdictional wetlands, 0.03-acre of non-jurisdictional isolated wetlands, and 32.1 linear feet of perennial stream.

The proposed Phase IIId segment would connect NC 55 with the existing terminus of the Morrisville Parkway at the intersection with Carpenter-Upchurch Road. This proposed segment would be approximately 415 linear feet. Permanent impacts to 0.15-acre non-jurisdictional wetlands and temporary impacts to 0.05-acre of non-jurisdictional wetlands are proposed.

To mitigate for permanent impacts to jurisdictional wetlands and streams, the applicant has proposed payment into the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program (NCEEP).

### Other Required Authorizations

This notice and all applicable application materials are being forwarded to the appropriate State agencies for review. The Corps will generally not make a final permit decision until the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ) issues, denies, or waives State certification required by Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (PL 92-500). The receipt of the application and this public notice combined with appropriate application fee at the North Carolina Division of Water Quality central office in Raleigh will constitute initial receipt of an application for a 401 Water Quality Certification. A waiver will be deemed to occur if the NCDWQ fails to act on this request for certification within sixty days of the date of the receipt of this notice in the NCDWQ Central Office. Additional information regarding the Clean Water Act certification may be reviewed at the NCDWQ Central Office, 401 Oversight and Express Permits Unit, 2321 Crabtree Boulevard. Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-2260. All persons desiring to make comments regarding the application for certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act should do so in writing delivered to the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ), 1650 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1650 Attention: Ms Cyndi Karoly by January 18, 2007.

### **Essential Fish Habitat**

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The Corps' initial determination is that the proposed project will not adversely impact EFH or associated fisheries managed by the South Atlantic or Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Councils or the National Marine Fisheries Service.

### **Cultural Resources**

The Corps has consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and is not aware that any registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are located within the project area or will be affected by the proposed work. Presently, unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be located within the project area and/or could be affected by the proposed work.

### **Endangered Species**

The Corps has reviewed the project area, examined all information provided by the applicant and consulted the latest North Carolina Natural Heritage Database. Based on available information, the Corps has determined pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, that the proposed project will have no effect on federally listed endangered or threatened species or their formally designated critical habitat.

### **Evaluation**

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values (in accordance with Executive Order 11988), land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving the discharge of dredged or fill materials in waters of the United States, the evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines.

### **Commenting Information**

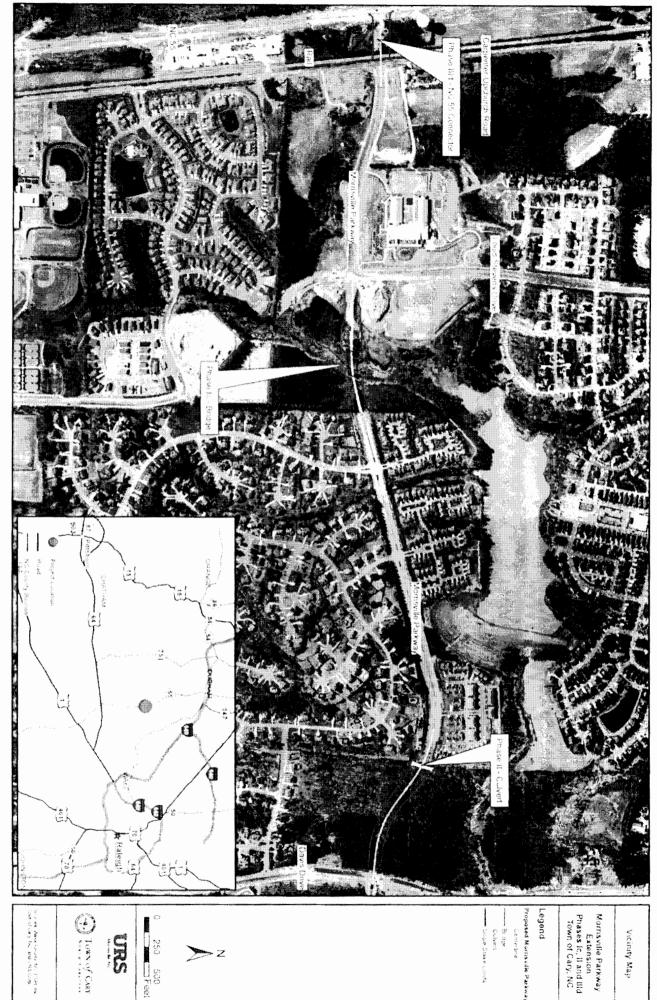
The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal. State and local agencies and officials, including any consolidate State Viewpoint or written position of the Governor; Indian Tribes and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered

species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and/or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Requests for a public hearing shall be granted, unless the District Engineer determines that the issues raised are insubstantial or there is otherwise no valid interest to be served by a hearing.

Written comments pertinent to the proposed work, as outlined above, will be received by the Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, until 5pm, January 29, 2007. Comments should be submitted to Monte Matthews, Raleigh Regulatory Field Office, 6508 Falls of Neuse Road, Suite 120. Raleigh, North Carolina 27615.

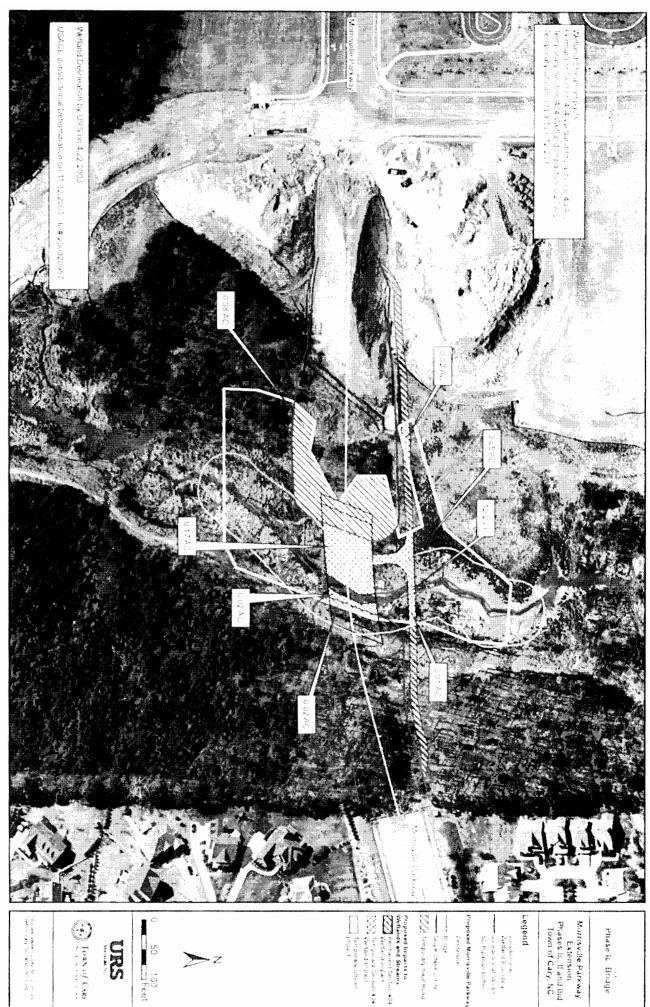
# Project Overview



sheet 1 of 10

### Phase $\overline{0}$

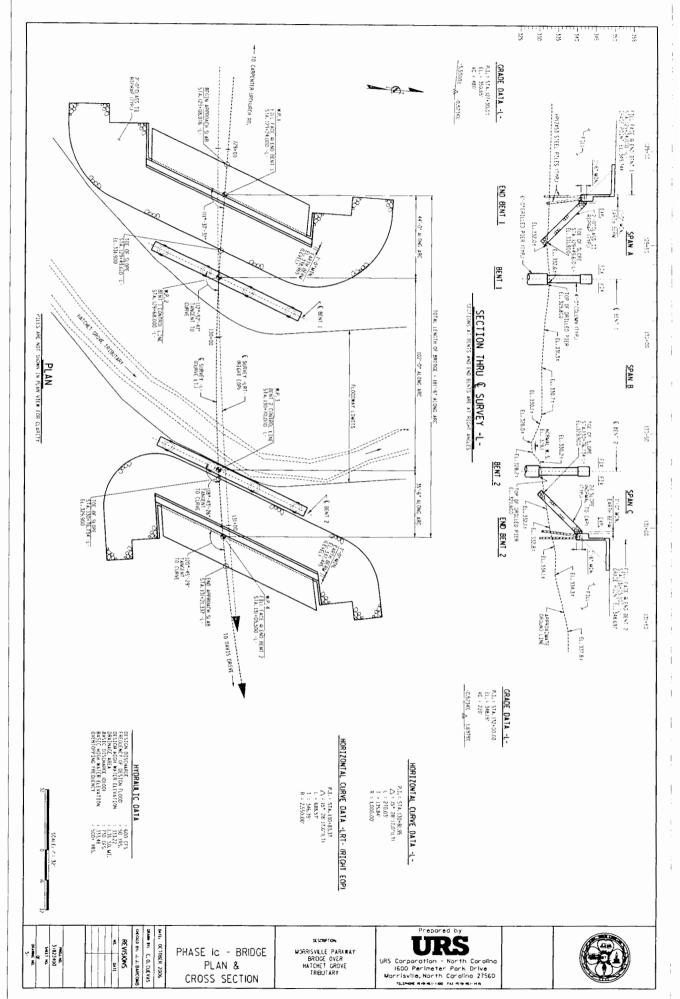
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sheet 2 of 10

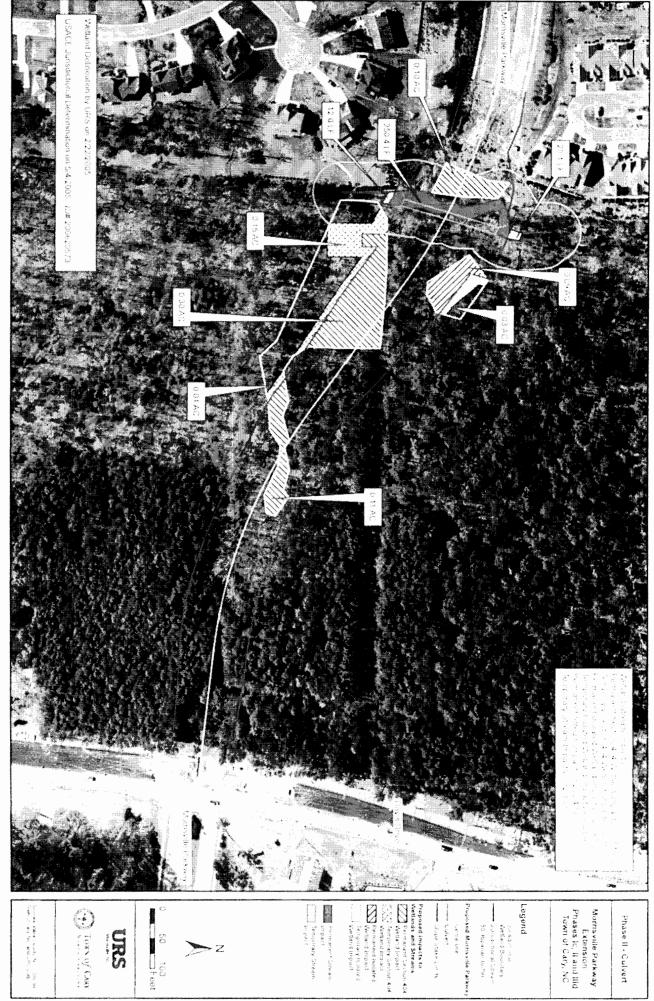
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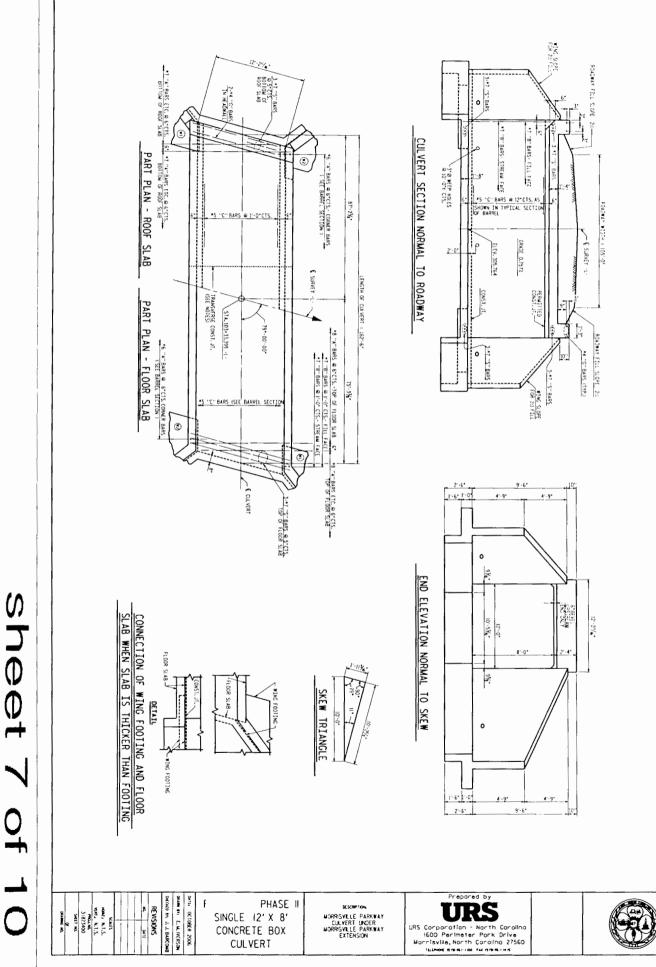
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### Phase II

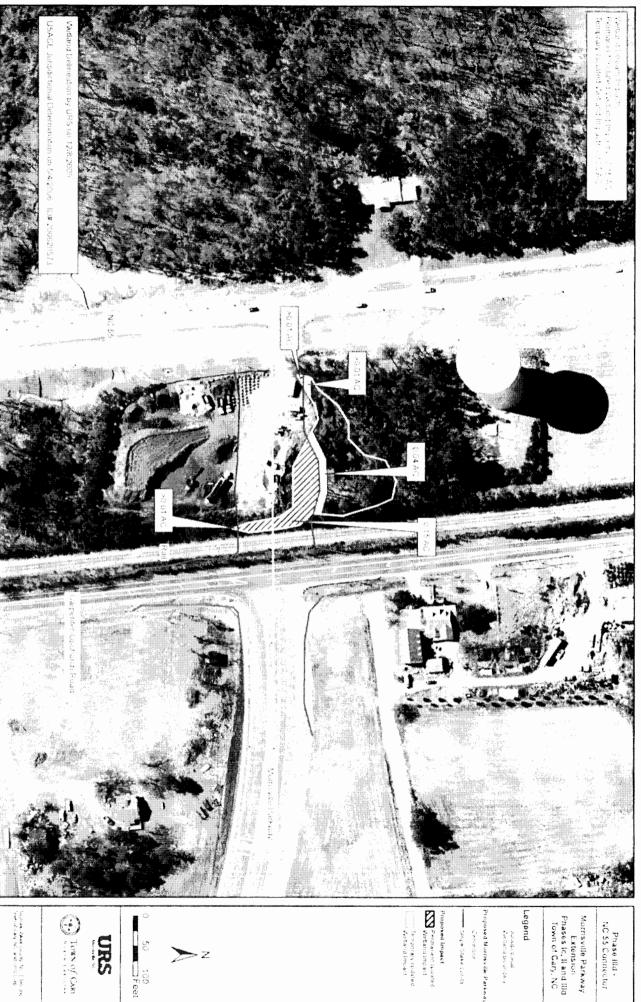


sheet 5 of 10

## sheet 6 of 10



## Phase IIId



sheet 8 of 10

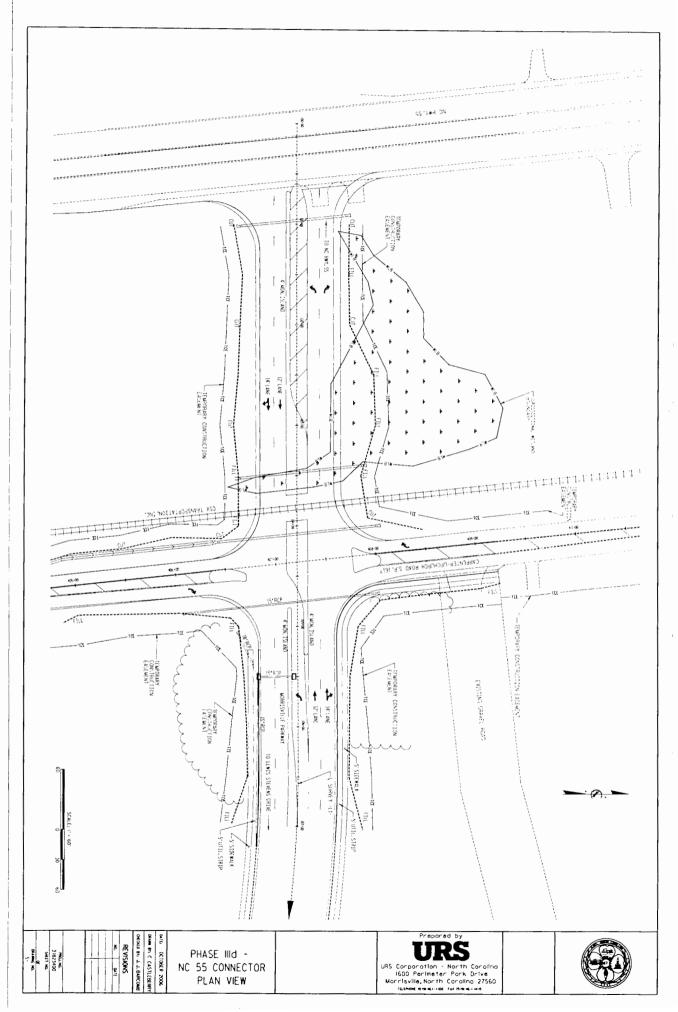


TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF WETLAND AND STREAM IMPACTS

		Pro	Project Segment		
		Phase Ic	Phase II	Phase IIId	
		Bridge	Culvert	NC 55 Connector	Total
Permanent Impacts	Section 404 Forested Wetlands (acre)	0.40	0.51	-	0.91
	Isolated Forested Wetlands (acre)	-	0.09	0.15	0.24
	Perennial Streams (linear feet)	-	250.4	-	250.4
Temporary Impacts	Section 404 Forested Wetlands (acre)	0.27	0.16	-	0.43
	Isolated Forested Wetlands (acre)	-	0.03	0.05	0.08
	Perennial Streams (linear feet)	12.2	32.1	- 1	44.3

TABLE 2. SUMMARY OF RIPARIAN BUFFER IMPACTS

			Project Segment			
			Phase Ic	Phase II	Phase IIId	
			Bridge	Culvert	NC 55 Connector	Total
Zone 1	Permanent Impacts (sq. ft.)	Section 404 Wetlands	814	2,379	N/A	3,193
		Uplands	1,102	9,985	N/A	11,087
	Temporary Impacts (sq. ft.)	Section 404 Wetlands	4,553	285	N/A	4,838
		Uplands	0	2,754	N/A	2,754
Zone 2	Permanent Impacts (sq. ft.)	Section 404 Wetlands	224	1,534	N/A	1,758
		Uplands	2.878	5,053	N/A	7,931
	Temporary Impacts (sq. ft.)	Section 404 Wetlands	2,828	1,273	N/A	4,101
		Uplands	48	1,708	N/A	1,756

TABLE 3. SUMMARY OF FILL MATERIALS WITHIN JURISDICTIONAL WATERS

	Project Segment			
	Phase Ic	Phase II	Phase IIId	
			NC 55	
Fill Material	Bridge	Culvert	Connector	Total
Gravel/Soil Road Embankment (cubic yards)	6,000	7,500	1.500	15,000
Class I Rip Rap (cubic yards)	N/A	4	N/A	4
Reinforced Concrete Drilled Piers (# per site)	8	N/A	N/A	8
Reinforced Concrete Box Culvert (# per site)	N/A	1 (162' x 12' x 8')	N/A	11_